

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2001 - SB 2331

March 2, 2014

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates a new Class A misdemeanor, punishable by fine only, for the retail internet sale of an immediate methamphetamine precursor and defines “retail internet sale of an immediate methamphetamine precursor”.

Reduces from 9 grams to 7.2 grams the maximum amount of ephedrine or pseudoephedrine a person can buy or a pharmacy can sell to one person in a 30-day period. Establishes a limit of 61.2 grams of ephedrine or pseudoephedrine that a person can buy or that a pharmacy can sell to one person in a one-year period.

Prohibits any credit toward the maximum limit if a person returns a product containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine.

Requires the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) to add to the methamphetamine registry all felony offenses under Tenn. Code Ann. Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 4. Renames the methamphetamine registry as the “drug offender registry.”

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Based on the Fiscal Review Committee’s 2008 study of incarceration costs and fines, collection of fines for felony offenses is negligible. There will not be a significant increase in revenue as a result of the new offense punishable by fine only.
- The TBI already keeps a registry for the following felonies under Tenn. Code Ann. Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 4: §§ 39-17-417, -418, -431, -433, and -435. The proposed legislation would add seven new felonies under Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 39-17-422, -423, -425, -432, -438, -453, and -454.
- The Department of Correction only shows admissions for Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 39-17-423 and -425 in the last 10 years. Those admissions account for approximately 40 admissions per year. It is assumed that the TBI can handle the slight increase in registrations within existing resources.
- It is assumed that the proposed legislation will not result in a significant number of new misdemeanors. It is assumed that the courts, district attorneys, and public defenders can accommodate any impact to their caseloads within their existing resources.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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